

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A location awareness system for a wireless local area network (WLAN). The location awareness system of the present invention allows the infrastructure owner to control the content and method of location related information. The location information translation is performed by the local area server, thus private information is protected inside the WLAN, hidden from to the public presence server. The location awareness system comprises an area agent, a local area server, and a presence server. The area agent obtains location information by providing the area tag to the local area server, and only submits the authorized location information (location awareness information) to the presence server either directly or by the local area server. The present invention further comprises a relay as a cache between the area agent and the local area server.